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# Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 PA-02 PRS-01

USIA-15 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-09 RSC-01 EB-07 /106 W
---------- 056849
R 272354Z JAN 75
FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8927
AMCONGEN CAPETOWN

UNCLAS USUN 0258

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UN, PFOR, SF
SUBJ: VORSTER VIEWS IN NEW YORK TIMES, JAN 26

BUSINESS AND FINANCE SECTION OF SUNDAY NEW YORK TIMES, JAN 26,
INCLUDES VIEWS OF WORLD LEADERS ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC
SITUATION AND SHARING OF RESOURCES. FOLLOWING ARE COMMENTS
BY PRIMMIN VORSTER, WHICH DEAL PRIMARILY WITH UN:

QUOTE:

NEW YORK TIMES BUSINESS SECTION -- JAN. 26, 1975

BY JOHN VORSTER

DESPITE MODERN COMMUNICATIONS, EVENTS DURING RECENT DECADES
HAVE SHOWN THAT INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION CANNOT REALLY
BE INITIATED EFFECTIVELY ON A GLOBAL SCALE.

THROUGHOUT ITS EXISTENCE, IT HAS BEEN THE EXPERIENCE WITH
THE UNITED NATIONS THAT IF MAJOR PROBLEMS STAND A CHANCE
OF BEING SOLVED THEY SHOULD FIRST BE DEALT WITH ON A REGIONAL
BASIS. ONLY IF A REGIONAL SOLUTION PROVES INADEQUATE--
OR IF THE PROBLEM AFFECTS MORE THAN ONE REGION--SHOULD
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A SOLUTION BE SOUGHT WIDER AFIELD.

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COOPERATION, OF COURSE, IMPLIES NOT ONLY THE ELIMINATION
OF PROBLEMS AND IRRITANTS, BUT ALSO CONSTRUCTIVE EFFORTS
IN THE INTEREST OF THE MAN IN THE STREET.

IF THE THESIS IS ACCEPTED--AND I ACCEPT IT -- THAT MANY
PROBLEMS HAVE GROWN BEYOND SOLUTION OR REMEDY WITHIN INDIVIDUAL
COUNTRIES, I AM CONVINCED THAT THE ESSENTIAL FIRST STEP
SHOULD BE COOPERATION BETWEEN NEIGHBORS. IN THIS CONNECTION,
THE IMPORTANCE OF FAMILIARITY WITH SPECIFIC PROBLEMS,
REQUIREMENTS AND ASPIRATIONS CANNOT BE OVER-EMPHASIZED.

WHEN A PROBLEM IS OF SUCH A NATURE THAT SEVERAL REGIONS
ARE INVOLVED, THEY SHOULD COME TOGETHER TO FORMULATE APPRO-
PRIATE SOLUTIONS.

THE RUDIMENTS OF SUCH A PROCEDURE ARE REFLECTED IN THE
UNITED NATIONS. UNFORTUNATELY, HOWEVER, THAT ORGANIZATION'S
CURRENT OBSESSION WITH THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF SOME OF
ITS MEMBERS TOGETHER WITH ITS APPARENT PREDELICTION FOR
ILLEGAL ACTION, RENDERS IT ALL BUT INEFFECTUAL.

THE UNITED NATIONS SHOULD STOP TRYING TO BE A SUPER PARLIAMENT
AND INSTEAD BECOME A FORUM FOR RESPONSIBLE AND HIGH-
LEVEL CONSULTATION AND SERIOUS DEBATE ONLY. IN THAT CASE
IT COULD BECOME AN EFFECTIVE VEHICLE FOR ORGANIZING AND
CONDUCTING COOPERATION WHEN IT IS NECESSARY TO PROCEED
BEYOND THE REGIONAL LEVEL.  UNQUOTE.
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# Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994
**Channel Indicators:** n/a
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED
**Concepts:** PERSONAL OPINION, ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, ECONOMIC INTEGRATION
**Control Number:** n/a
**Copy:** SINGLE
**Draft Date:** 27 JAN 1975
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960
**Decaption Note:**
**Disposition Action:** n/a
**Disposition Approved on Date:**
**Disposition Authority:** n/a
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a
**Disposition Comment:**
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960
**Disposition Event:**
**Disposition History:** n/a
**Disposition Reason:**
**Disposition Remarks:**
**Document Number:** 1975USUNN00258
**Document Source:** CORE
**Document Unique ID:** 00
**Drafter:** n/a
**Enclosure:** n/a
**Executive Order:** N/A
**Errors:** N/A
**Film Number:** D750030-0451
**From:** USUN NEW YORK
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Image Path:**
**ISecure:** 1
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750116/aaaaaofn.tel
**Line Count:** 90
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
**Office:** ACTION IO
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a
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**Page Count:** 2
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a
**Previous Classification:** n/a
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Reference:** n/a
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH
**Review Comment:** n/a
**Review Content Flags:**
**Review Date:** 20 NOV 2003
**Review Event:**
**Review Exemptions:** n/a
**Review History:** RELEASED <20 NOV 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <25 Nov 2003 by MorefiRH>
**Review Markings:**

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EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**
**Review Referrals:** n/a
**Review Release Date:** n/a
**Review Release Event:** n/a
**Review Transfer Date:**
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a
**Secure:** OPEN
**Status:** NATIVE
**Subject:** VORSTER VIEWS IN NEW YORK TIMES, JAN 26 BUSINESS AND FINANCE SECTION OF SUNDAY NEW YORK TIMES, JAN 26
**TAGS:** PFOR, XX, UN, NEW YORK TIMES, (VORSTER, JOHN)
**To:** PRETORIA
**Type:** TE
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

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